

1 **50590/TJD/C373**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method and system for recovering coalbed methane are disclosed. The method involves tunneling along a seam of coal to a point below a water table and at a depth below the water table sufficient for dissolved methane to be present in the water; separating a portion of the water containing dissolved methane while below the water table; reducing pressure on the
10 separated portion for extracting dissolved methane; removing the extracted methane; and discharging the separated portion of water after extracting dissolved methane.

15

TJD/jmp

20 BLV PAS509985.1--06/19/03 6:03 PM

25

30

35